

Wm. D. Moon

# THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1903.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## TOWN COUNCIL.

AN IMPORTANT MEETING HELD MONDAY NIGHT.

Charles Vogelius Speaks in Favor of Montgomery Hose Company—Hugh D. King Asks for Information About Weaver Avenue—Councilman Moore Sees the Erie Railroad Company.

Charles Vogelius of Montgomery street, who has long been identified with the movement for the establishment of a fire company in the vicinity of Montgomery and Orchard streets, addressed the Town Council on Monday night in advocacy of that project. Mr. Vogelius said that the section of the town in which the fire house was needed was growing rapidly, eighty new houses having been erected there within the past three years. "If any gentleman in the Council," said Mr. Vogelius, "do not think that a fire house is needed in our district, we invite them to come and make an inspection of the locality and make themselves acquainted with the conditions and necessities." Mr. Vogelius did not deem a slight addition to the tax rate a justifiable reason for a refusal to accede to the petition for a fire company, as the taxpayers in that district had paid taxes for years towards the maintenance of fire protection in more highly favored sections of the town. Mr. Vogelius concluded by saying that he hoped the Council would give favorable consideration to the recommendation of the Chairman of the Fire Committee for the erection of a fire house in the Montgomery district.

Hugh D. King, a Fairview property-owner interested in the projected opening of Weaver avenue and Cedar street, which was petitioned for over a year since, made inquiry as to the status of the case and the cause for the delay in the opening of the streets. Councilman Conian stated to the Council that Town Attorney Halpin cited a previous experience of the Council in an effort to force the Erie Company to safeguard the grade crossings and was defeated in the courts. Mr. Halpin said that notwithstanding the failure of that attempt it relieved the Council of moral responsibility by endeavoring to get the railroad company to protect the crossings.

Mr. Moore said that he was aware that the law could not be invoked to compel the railroad company to take the requested action, nevertheless he thought another request should be made, and his motion that the Town Clerk send a letter to the company expressing the sentiment of the Council was adopted.

Councilman Conian presented a complaint of Willett street property-owners about the manner in which the Erie Company had laid a side track across that street. The Clerk was instructed to notify the company of the complaint.

The letter of Mr. Briggs to the Board of Trade complaining about the condition of Washington place was read by the Clerk.

Charles Batalz of Phoenix Hose Company was granted an exemption certificate.

Chief of Police Collins reported twenty-eight arrests and \$107 collected in fines during the month of August.

## Police Court News.

Antonio Rematere of Nutley was a passenger on a west bound Bloomfield avenue trolley car Sunday evening and got into a dispute with the conductor about transfer. He raised such a disturbance that Policeman Maxwell had to take him to jail. Monday morning he was arraigned before Recorder Post and paid a fine of ten dollars.

A Public Service Corporation official was at police headquarters Monday making inquiries about a disturbance that took place on a Bloomfield avenue trolley car Sunday night, but which was not reported at the company's office by the conductor of the car. It is understood that some Montclair men got in a fight on the car and were ejected at Hill street in this town.

John McCreedy and Patrick Hogan, both employed on the pipe line, got drunk Monday and were ejected from several saloons. They were warned by Officer Maxwell to get out of town. Hogan resented the advice and abused the officer. Both men were taken into custody and were arraigned before the Recorder Monday evening. McCreedy was discharged with a reprimand, but Hogan had to pay a fine of three dollars.

The recommendation of Chairman Conian of the Sewer Committee for the contract for the Grove street sewer was referred to Martin J. Callahan, the only bidder for the job. Chairman Peterson inquired if it was not possible to get more than one bid for sewer work. Mr. Conian replied that the contract for such a small amount that other contractors would not enter into competition for it.

Mr. Conian for the Road Committee reported that he had made an investigation of the complaints made by C. W. Van Wagoner about the accumulation of water from town streets on his property in Railroad place, and the matter was referred back to the Road Committee to ascertain what arrangements could be made for a drain that would carry off the water to Tony's brook.

Councilman Conian reported a complaint about the Rubber Company in the Second Ward causing damage to Franklin street by running waste water from the mill out onto Franklin avenue. The company's attention, Mr. Conian said, had been brought to the matter several times, and each time a promise was made that it would be remedied. The Clerk was instructed to transmit to the company a request from the Council that immediate steps be taken to abate the nuisance.

Councilman Moore of the Franchise Committee stated that President Eppley of the Essex Cross Railway Company had informed him that he (Mr. Eppley) was still at work on that project and

## MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

A Committee of the Civics Club of the Oranges Appointed to Investigate the Subject of Municipal Ownership of Public Utilities Submitted the Following Report.

From this report we deduce the following conclusions:

1. Private companies control practically all the public utilities in New Jersey except the water supply, as to which a strong tendency toward municipal ownership appears.

2. The trolley franchisees have been granted in perpetuity, with a few exceptions. Some provide for a periodical adjustment of compensation, and the impression prevails that such franchises are thereby limited in duration, but they are, in fact, perpetual, as no provision is made whereby the city may buy or remove the plant, and the readjustment of compensation is compulsory and binding upon the city for the succeeding term.

3. The water contracts for public and private service have been made, as a rule, for terms of ten to twenty-five years. The gas and electric light contracts are usually from five to fifteen years. We believe the trolley and telephone contracts should also be subject to readjustment at short intervals.

4. The subject of compensation for franchisees has been grossly neglected. The result is that private companies are now enjoying valuable franchises with little or no returns to the community. The city of Newark affords a notable exception. Ever since 1890 the trolley companies in Newark have been required to pay into the treasury five per cent. of their gross receipts in addition to their general taxes and city license fees; to furnish electric lights in the centre of the streets along their routes; to give transfers within the city on their own or any other lines; to run at a rate of speed not exceeding twelve miles an hour; to change from overhead trolley whenever so required by a commission; to submit their construction plans to the Council for approval, and to use only cars of the most approved pattern.

An ample supply of pure, wholesome water is vital to the health, comfort and general prosperity of every community. Police protection, proper sanitation, sewer system and street cleaning are of the same type of public service, and all should be absolutely in the hands of the civic authorities. A majority of American cities already own and control all these public utilities, and the movement for a more general adoption of municipal ownership is rapidly growing.

It is conceded that the public is at last beginning to appreciate the immense value of its franchisees. This is proven by the closer scrutiny of franchise applications; the growth of municipal ownership here and abroad; the stress laid upon the subject in campaigns and in legislative assemblies, especially in the agitation for the taxation of public franchisees. We believe that these indications point in the right direction, and that the New Jersey State Civic Federation should add the weight of its influence in favor of a rational reform of the abuses under which so many of our cities are plagued in the name of public improvement.

We believe, however, that it is the part of prudence to apply the principle of municipal ownership first to the utilities which are vital to all the people all the time, and that as to the others it may often be wiser to endure for a time an inferior service at a slightly higher rate rather than to assume an undue tax burden, or trench unduly upon the field of private enterprise. In any case, however, proper conditions of service should be insisted upon and the rights of the people fully safeguarded through intelligent oversight by the authorities.

We have, therefore, to recommend the adoption by the Federation of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we favor as a general proposition the principle of municipal ownership of public utilities.

Resolved, That in acquiring municipal ownership of public utilities we favor giving the preference to such as are of prime importance to the entire community, as, for example, water and gas, as distinguished from such as are limited in application, for instance, trolley and telephone.

Resolved, That in granting any franchise we favor the following requirements:

1. A time limitation, preferably not over twenty-five (25) years, with the reservation to the city of the right to take over the plant on an agreed basis, or at its option to renew the agreement.

2. Adequate compensation, proportionate to gross earnings.

3. Explicit statements of operation to be made by the officers of the company, as the basis for computing such compensation.

4. Proper agreements touching the character of the service to be rendered. Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD K. SUMERWELL,  
BYRON G. MATTHEWS,  
GEORGE B. DOUGLAS,  
Committee on Franchises.

## LINDEN AVENUE CASE.

Again a Subject of Discussion Before the Town Council—Charles W. Powers Claims that the Property Owners have Proved Their Case and It is Now Up to the Council to Act—The Town Clerk will Write to Engineer Olmsted.

A large array of Linden avenue property-owners again confronted the Town Council at Monday evening's session of that body. Charles W. Powers, Chairman of the property-owners committee, again addressed the Council on the well worn subject of the Linden avenue improvement assessment. Mr. Powers reviewed the steps taken in the case since the Saturday afternoon meeting on the street at which a committee of property-owners was appointed to act with the Town Engineer in verifying the measurements of flagstone sidewalk, curbing, cobble gutters and grading.

Mr. Powers stated that the committee and the Engineer started work as soon as the meeting adjourned that Saturday afternoon, and went over a small portion of the measurements, and Mr. Olmsted said that he would return in a few days and complete the work. The next news that the committee heard was that Mr. Olmsted had declined to continue the work.

Councilman Moore said that Mr. Olmsted's declination to go on with the work was due to the fact that his bill for services on that occasion was not approved, and a letter from Mr. Olmsted was read in which he wanted reimbursement for his time and expenses in the Linden avenue work.

Councilman Conian in commenting on the letter said that Mr. Olmsted had been paid once for the work on that street and its correctness was now in dispute, and if he refused to verify it as requested by the Council the only thing for the Council to do was to ask for Mr. Olmsted's resignation, and the Clerk was directed to write to the Engineer to that effect.

Mr. Powers in the course of his remarks cited statistics from the Linden avenue contract and from the Engineer's report, and also the results of investigation on the part of the property-owners, and he claimed that the property-owners had proved their case and it was up to the Town Council to act.

## The Bridegroom Tarried.

The marriage of a couple of Polish people recently took place in St. Valentine's Church under circumstances at variance with the ordinary manner in which such events are usually carried out by the Poles. The announcement that the marriage would take place in the church was duly announced from the pulpit by the priest of St. Valentine's parish, and the bridegroom being one of the leading citizens in the Pollock colony here, preparations were made for an unusual demonstration and festivities.

When the night of the wedding arrived St. Valentine's Church was crowded with Poles from this town, Franklin, Belleville and Passaic. The hour arrived for the ceremony and the priest was at the altar, but no bride or bridegroom put in an appearance. The congregation waited patiently for some time. The priest finally got angry at the negligence of the bridegroom in failing to keep such an important appointment, and dismissed the congregation and ordered the church locked up. Outside the church the people indulged in all sorts of speculation as to the whereabouts of the missing bride and groom, and expressed much disappointment over the upsetting of their arrangements for a gala time.

As soon as the people had gone home a coach stopped in front of the priest's house and the bridegroom and his bride got out of it and went into the rectory.

When the couple confronted the priest the latter severely reprimanded them for their failure to keep an important engagement and for disrespect towards the church. The bridegroom was profuse in apologies and requested the priest to reopen the church and perform the marriage ceremony. The priest flatly refused but the couple pleaded so fervently that the priest relented and went with the couple to the church and married them. Last Sunday the priest issued a mandate from the pulpit that no more evening marriage services would take place in the church and all marriages must take place in the morning. The bridegroom who tarried is congratulating himself over the money he saved in outwitting the crowd, who anticipated a big time at his expense.

## Nutley Single Taxers.

The Nutley Single Tax Club will open its fall and winter campaign with a public meeting in Connolly's Hall, Thursday evening, September 24. The speaker will be James R. Brown of New York city, who is well qualified to enlighten enquirers as to the principles upon which the Single Tax proposition rests. Ample opportunity will be given for questions by those desirous of familiarizing themselves with the subject.

## MacCrea-Maginn.

A pretty wedding was that of Miss Gertrude Priscilla Maginn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Maginn of 124 Dodd street, East Orange, and Nathan Courtney MacCrea, Secretary of the Civics Club of the Oranges, which was celebrated Wednesday night in the New Church, Essex avenue, Orange. Rev. Adolph Roeder, pastor of the church, performed the ceremony in the presence of many relatives and friends of the couple. A reception followed at the home of the bride's parents.

The bride had as bridesmaids Miss Helen Wright of Brooklynville, Md., and Miss Rose Carroll of Orange. They wore light blue silk mull and carried white asters. The bride wore a lace robe over a white silk gown. Her veil was caught up with a pearl sunburst, the gift of the bridegroom. Miss Eleanor Lewis of Roseville was the maid of honor. She was attired in white silk mull and carried pink roses. George C. Garrabrant of Orange was the best man. The ushers were Clifford C. Brangs of Roseville and Ernest Maginn of East Orange. Horace B. Mann, the church organist, presided at the organ. The church and house were decorated with palms, golden rod, asters and other autumn flowers. The bridegroom gave his best man and ushers dearpins, and the maid of honor and bridesmaids received silk fans from the bride. The wedding tour will include a trip through Canada. Mr. MacCrea's home is on Bonshaw avenue, East Orange.

Rival base-ball teams made up of employees in two departments of the Sprague Electric Company will contest for supremacy in the ability to play the national game on the Arlington avenue grounds this morning. In addition to the honor of winning the game there will be a cash compensation to stimulate the players and entice the spectators. Fifty dollars a side is the stake.

The rival teams are from the respective departments of Foreman Charles Nicolai and Charles Goordman. The former's department is in the east gallery of the works and the latter's in the west gallery. The base-ball rivalry between the young men in the two departments is keen. The two teams have met before on the base-ball diamond and with varying results. Today's game will give either the east or the west gallery the right to fly the pennant. In addition to the purse that will go to the winning team the side bets will amount to hundreds of dollars.

If the weather is fine there will be a large attendance at the game, for there is a widespread interest in the game outside of the several hundred employees of the Sprague Works who will do some lively rooting for the respective teams. The game will be called at 11:15 A.M. by William M. Milford, President of the Sprague Employees Mutual Aid Association, who has courageously consented to act as umpire. Joseph Wolf, the well-known cycler, is manager of the Nicolai Base-ball Club and B. Hendrickson is captain; James Shearer is manager of the Goordman Base-ball Club and Thomas Buddy, captain. The batting order of the teams is as follows:

Nicola B. B. C.—B. Hendrickson, 1 b.; F. Voll, 2 b.; J. Gordon, 3 b.; J. Wolf, a. s.; W. Foster, 1 f.; B. Webster, c. f.; G. Macaulay, r. f.; J. Herdman, c.; F. Beckler, p.

The Belleville magistrate and the two officers had been summoned late in the afternoon to quell a disturbance, said to have been caused by a disagreement over the division of the money collected during the procession in honor of the festival. Two officers from the Second Police Precinct in Newark were also hurried to the scene, after word had been sent to the station. The trouble had quieted down before they arrived, however.

There was much excitement when the fight was in progress Sunday night. A large crowd had collected to hear the band concert and witness the fireworks. Constable Gorham says he wrenched a revolver from Ippolito after a struggle, and handed it to Gillmann. While he was putting the handcuffs on the prisoner a great number of the spectators rushed into the scrimmage, and the weapon was knocked from the officer's hand.

## Board of Health Appropriation.

Town Attorney Charles H. Halpin, who is also counsel to the Board of Health, at the request of Dr. E. M. Ward, President of the Board of Health, submitted to the Town Council Monday night a statement showing that the Board of Health was in need of an appropriation of \$800 to meet expenses incurred in a recent smallpox case. The statement showed the various purposes for which the money would be applied, such as physician's services, nurse, medicines, disinfectants and disinfecting, horse hire, driver, clothing, provisions and watchman. An approximate estimate of the expenditures for each of the above named purposes accompanied the statement.

Councilman Moore and Walker, desirous of avoiding the trouble that had arisen between the Council and the Board of Health over the previous smallpox cases, requested to have the request for an appropriation laid over one week.

The approximate estimate of \$100 for drugs and disinfectants called forth some vigorous comment from Mr. Walker. Town Clerk Johnson stated the amounts named were only estimates and the bills had not been received. Mr. Moore's motion to lay the matter over for a week carried.

## Bow-Salle.

The marriage of Miss Edith Louise Salle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Salle, to Charles Bows of Passaic took place Monday afternoon in the Church of the Sacred Heart. The Rev. Joseph M. Nardello officiated. The bride, who was gowned in a traveling suit of gray voile, was given away by her father. She carried a bouquet of white roses. Miss Kate Salle, the bride's sister, acted as bridesmaid. She was dressed in blue voile and carried a bunch of pink roses. Louis Bows, a brother of the bridegroom, was best man. A reception to the immediate relatives of both families followed at the home of the bride's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Bows will live in Passaic.

## Watseessing vs. Park A. C.

The Watseessing Base-ball Club will have its opponents on the Arlington avenue grounds this afternoon the well-known Park Athletic Club. The Park Club has been seeking a game with the Watseessing several times this season. The Park A. C. plays on the Branch Brook Park grounds and is considered a good amateur team.

## FIFTY DOLLARS A SIDE

IS THE STAKE IN A BASE-BALL GAME TO-DAY?

Between Rival Teams in the Sprague Electric Works—Rutherford Field Club Defeated by the Watseessings Saturday Afternoon.

Rival base-ball teams made up of employees in two departments of the Sprague Electric Company will contest for supremacy in the ability to play the national game on the Arlington avenue grounds this morning. In addition to the honor of winning the game there will be a cash compensation to stimulate the players and entice the spectators. Fifty dollars a side is the stake.

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The Watseessing Club defeated the Rutherford Field Club on the Arlington avenue grounds Saturday afternoon by a score of 9 to 8, in the presence of about 1,200 spectators, most of whom were from Rutherford. This is the most satisfactory victory the home club has won this season, and it was also one of the most exciting games played on the Arlington avenue grounds. The Rutherford Field Club has been beaten by the Watseessings on Rutherford grounds, and early this season defeated the home club by a score of 13-0.

The sea-sawing of the score in Saturday afternoon's game kept the rooters on both sides on an edge all afternoon, and the feeling was intense at times. The Rutherford Field Club was disposed to dispute Umpire Ferguson's decision in several instances, but they could not move him